

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 031656

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APPROVED BY IO:RDMOREY

AF/W - JWALKER (DRAFT)

AF/W: MGWYGANT (DRAFT)

EUR/RPM: RHFROWICK (DRAFT)

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O R 152230Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031656

NESCO

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SG, AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED U.S. POSITION RE DG SUCCESSION

1. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP ACTION POSTS' VIEWS
RE FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR U. S. ACTION ON UNESCO DIRECTOR-
GENERAL ISSUE:

2. AT EARLY MEETING WITH M'BOW, HOPEFULLY MIDDLE OR LATTER
PART OF NEXT WEEK, PERMREP WOULD ASSURE HIM THAT U. S.
CONTINUES TO GIVE HIS CANDIDACY "CAREFUL AND SYMPATHETIC
CONSIDERATION" BUT CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL, BEFORE TAKING
A FINAL POSITION, TO GET A CLEAR AND DETAILED PICTURE OF HIS
VIEWS ON FOLLOWING ISSUES OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO U.S.:

A. DISTRIBUTION OF SECRETARIAT POSITIONS.
B. GROWING TENDENCY FOR POLITICAL CONCERNS TO BE
INJ*CTED INTO UNESCO'S ACTIVITIES AND DELIBERATIONS
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PAGE 02 STATE 031656

C. UNESCO CHARTER PRINCIPLE OF FREE FLOW OF INFORMA-
TION AND IDEAS.

D. POSSIBILITY OF UNESCO'S DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE LONG-

RANGE AND MEDIUM-TERM PLANNING AND EVALUATION TECHNIQUES.

E. PROGRAM PRIORITIES.

F. POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT IN UNESCO'S MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY.

G. OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL GROUPS TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNESCO'S PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND PLANNING; U.S. ROLE IN RELATION THERETO (I.E. MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP).

3. OBJECT OF THIS EXERCISE IS TO FILL GAPS IN DEPT'S UNDERSTANDING OF M'BOW'S POSITIONS ON THESE MATTERS. FOLLOWING MATERIAL IS PROVIDED TO FACILITATE PERMREP'S TASK OF DRAWING HIM OUT. IT MAY ALSO BE USED JUDICIOUSLY TO HELP INFORM M'BOW OF WHERE U.S. STANDS ON THESE BASIC ISSUES, BUT PERMREP SHOULD AVOID APPEARANCE OF LECTURING M'BOW.

A. DISTRIBUTION OF SECRETARIAT POSITIONS. NUMBER OF AMERICANS SERVING IN SECRETARIAT AND IN FIELD PROJECTS HAS INCREASED ONLY SLIGHTLY IN RECENT YEARS. ON BASIS OF ACCEPTED UNESCO CRITERIA, U.S. CONTINUES TO BE SEVERELY DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN THIS RESPECT. THIS SITUATION IS PARTICULARLY DISTURBING BECAUSE OF WHAT AMERICAN EXPERTS IN UNESCO'S FIELDS OF COMPETENCE HAVE TO OFFER AND BECAUSE IT RUNS COUNTER TO AMERICANS' TRADITIONAL DESIRE FOR SERVICE TO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND IN HUMANITARIAN CAUSES.

B. NECESSITY FOR UNESCO TO BE APOLITICAL. UNESCO'S MISSION OF IMPROVING EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS MUST AVOID DIVISIVE POLEMICS AND PROPAGANDA, OTHERWISE ITS SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAMS WILL FOUNDER ON DANGEROUS POLITICAL SHOALS. U. S. WOULD EXPECT A STRONG, CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 031656

IDEALISTICALLY MOTIVATED DG TO EXERCISE FIRM LEADERSHIP IN OPPOSING UNESCO'S TRANSFORMATION INTO A POLITICAL FORUM. PREVENTING PROPAGANDISTIC EXPLOITATION OF UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND DECADE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, WHILE AT SAME TIME ENSURING THAT ORGANIZATION DOES NOT ABDICATE ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR TAKING COURAGEOUS POSITIONS ON FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, WILL POSE DIFFICULT CHALLENGE FOR NEW DG. FACT IS, INJECTION OF POLITICAL ISSUES INTO UNESCO FORUM IS DIRECT CAUSE OF ONLY LUKE-WARM SUPPORT OF UNESCO IN THE U.S. A DEMONSTRABLE EFFORT BY A NEW DG TO CHANNEL UNESCO'S ENERGIES TOWARD THE NON-POLITICAL SUBSTANTIVE AREAS OF ITS MANDATE WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD CREATING AN ESSENTIAL ATMOSPHERE OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN HIM AND

THE U. S.

C. FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION. U.S. BELIEVES THIS IS ONE OF UNESCO'S MOST IMPORTANT FOUNDATION STONES, ON WHICH DEPENDS THE SUCCESS OF ITS EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND ACHIEVE ITS BASIC PROGRAM GOALS. U. S. IS VERY CONCERNED BY INCREASING EVIDENCE (E.G. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES RE BROADCAST SATELLITES AND EFFORTS TO FORMULATE "GUIDELINES" FOR COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA) THAT UNESCO IS ERODING FREE FLOW PRINCIPLES BY TURNING TO RESTRICTIONISM AND CENSORSHIP. IT IS IMPERATIVE, WE BELIEVE, THAT FREE FLOW OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION BE STRONGLY DEFENDED THROUGHOUT UNESCO.

D. STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES FOR 1975-1980. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT UNESCO'S EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY MEDIUM-RANGE STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES AND TO ADOPT MORE EFFECTIVE METHODS FOR IMPLEMENTING THEM AND FOR EVALUATING RESULTS. THIS IS REFLECTED IN DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WE SUBMITTED LAST JULY AND WHICH WE EXPECT TO SEE REFLECTED IN UNESCO'S PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS DURING COMING YEARS.

E. PROGRAM PRIORITIES. OUR BASIC PHILOSOPHY IS THAT UNESCO PROGRAMS SHOULD GIVE HIGHER PRIORITY TO PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HANDLING GLOBAL INTERSECTORAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS THOSE RELATING TO POPULATION AND FAMILY PLANNING, DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT, CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 031656

AND UTILIZATION OF NATURAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES. FUNDS SHOULD BE SHIFTED TO THOSE AREAS FROM LOW PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE FAILED TO ATTAIN DESIRED OBJECTIVES OR HAVE FAILED TO PRODUCE ADEQUATE RESULTS. FUNCTIONAL LITERACY, UNISIST, MAB AND THE IOC ARE EXAMPLES OF THE TYPE OF ACTIVITY FOR WHICH WE BELIEVE UNESCO IS UNIQUELY SUITED. AT SAME TIME, WE FEEL MORE ATTENTION SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO CULTURAL SECTOR, WHICH AT PRESENT RECEIVES DISPROPORTIONATELY SMALL PART OF UNESCO PROGRAM FUNDS. HIGHER PRIORITY SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO CONTRIBUTION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES TO SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE; EXPANSION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE FACILITIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND INCREASED APPLICATION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES DIRECTLY TO SOCIAL PROBLEMS, COUPLED WITH THE STRENGTHENING OF SCIENTIFIC METHODOLOGY IN ORDER TO MAKE RESEARCH A MORE EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT OF PLANNING. STRENGTH OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES SECTOR MUST BE MAINTAINED, ALONG WITH FORWARD MOMENTUM DEVELOPED BY SPECIAL SCIENCE PROJECTS IN RECENT YEARS. LATTER REPRESENT SOME OF UNESCO'S MOST IMAGINATIVE AND SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES. (FYI. IN VIEW UNCERTAINTY RE M'BOW'S COMMITMENT TO SCIENCE SECTOR, THIS AREA WILL BE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR PERMREP TO EXPLORE WITH HIM. END FYI.)

F. INCREASED MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY, IN ADDITION TO

STRESSING NEED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE AND SYSTEMATIC PLAN FOR EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS (ILLUSTRATED BY U. S. RESOLUTION AT 17TH GC CALLING FOR OUTSIDE MANAGEMENT STUDY), U. S. HAS REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED NEED FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND MODERATION AND FOR MORE EFFICIENT USE OF ORGANIZATION'S RESOURCES. REAL PROGRAM GROWTH, WE BELIEVE, SHOULD BE FINANCED FROM ECONOMIES RATHER THAN FROM EVER LARGER ASSESSMENTS.

G. INCREASED EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL ACTIVITIES. U. S. ENTIRELY SUBSCRIBES TO RECENT EFFORTS BY UNESCO TO FACILITATE PROGRAM PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION ON REGIONAL LEVEL. IN LINE WITH HIGHER PRIORITY GIVEN TO THIS AND WITH UNESCO'S STATED GOAL FOR ALL MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN AT LEAST ONE REGIONAL GROUP, U. S. HAS SOUGHT MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP. WE FEEL IT WOULD BE
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PAGE 05 STATE 031656

INTOLERABLE FOR U.S., WHICH CONTRIBUTES MORE THAN QUARTER OF UNESCO'S REGULAR BUDGET, TO BE EXCLUDED, POSSIBLY ISOLATED, FROM UNESCO'S REGIONAL GROUPS. MOREOVER, U. S. PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN GROUP COULD BE OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE IF UNESCO WERE TO BE GIVEN POST-CSCE ROLE IN CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC AREA. MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP WILL THEREFORE BE MAJOR IF N

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